

Senate calendar. Mr. Straub is a partner in the law firm of Willkie Farr & Gallagher.

Judge Sotomayor, Judge Pooler, Robert Sack and Chester Straub can and should all be confirmed to the Second Circuit before the Senate adjourns for its Memorial Day recess.

In his most recent Report on the Judiciary the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court warned that persisting vacancies would harm the administration of justice. The Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court pointedly declared: "Vacancies cannot remain at such high levels indefinitely without eroding the quality of justice that traditionally has been associated with the federal judiciary."

The people and businesses in the Second Circuit need additional federal judges confirmed by the Senate. Indeed, the Judicial Conference of the United States recommends that in addition to the 5 vacancies, the Second Circuit be allocated an additional 2 judgeships to handle its workload. The Second Circuit is suffering harm from Senate inaction. That is why the Chief Judge of the Second Circuit had to declare the Circuit in a state of emergency.

Must we wait for the administration of justice to disintegrate further before the Senate will take this crisis seriously and act on the nominees pending before it? I pray not.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO EAST HIGH SCHOOL, FINALIST IN THE WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the students from East High School in Denver, CO who participated in the "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" finals held here in our Nation's Capital, May 2-4, 1998. East High School competed against 49 other classes from across the Nation. Their hard work was rewarded with an Honorable mention as one of the top ten finalists in the competition.

I am always pleased when I have the opportunity to come to the Senate floor to praise students that have taken an interest in their government and their Constitution. By taking part in this competition, the students of East High School have served to strengthen the foundation of our democracy.

Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the participants, Daniel Berson, Lisa Bianco, Rosemary Blosser, Tristan Bridges, John Patrick Crum, Jessica Dismang, Belle Duggan, Sterling Ekwo, Heidi Gehret, Sarah Givens, Jamaal Harmon, Courtney Hopley, Scott Kronewitter, Melanie McRae, Jennifer Newman, Gavin Rember, Jennifer Roche, Sarah Showalter, Jessica Slenger, Lauren Strickland, Matthew Vellone, Feliz Ventura, Michaela Welch, and their teacher Ms. Deanna Morrison for doing

such a fine job of representing Colorado.

I cannot overstate the achievements of these young people, they are some of the best and brightest that America has to offer. I am proud to say that I, along with all Coloradans, congratulate East High School on a job well done.●

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEN'S ICE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the University of Michigan hockey team on their 1998 NCAA Championship—The Wolverines' second hockey title in three years.

On Saturday, April 4th, the Michigan hockey team defeated Boston College (3-2) in overtime for the championship. This is a remarkable achievement for a team which lost nine senior players from last year's team, including the Hobey Baker trophy winner and 5 players who each scored 20 or more goals in the season. The 1997-98 Michigan team featured 10 freshmen, one of whom scored two goals in the final game, and another who scored the winning goal in overtime in the championship game.

When the 1997-98 season started, it was expected to be a rebuilding year for the Wolverines. The young team faced a difficult season against some of the toughest teams in the nation. Instead, the Michigan team earned a 34-11-1 record, seizing every chance to display their athleticism, sportsmanship, teamwork, and perseverance.

The University of Michigan ice hockey players have always been among the "leaders and best." As the Wolverines celebrate this year's victory, they also commemorate the anniversary of their first NCAA title fifty years ago, when the tournament began. In the last 50 years, the Wolverines have brought nine championship titles back to Ann Arbor, making them the winningest team in NCAA men's ice hockey history.

The "Victors" are indebted to the strong leadership they have from Head Coach Red Berenson and players, Captain Matt Herr and Assistant Captains Bill Muckalt and Marty Turco. These three seniors, along with Chris Fox and Gregg Malicke, advanced to the Final Four four seasons in a row. In addition, senior Bill Muckalt was named a Hobey Baker award candidate and All-American player, and senior goaltender Marty Turco finished his college career with one of the most impressive records in college hockey. The goalie's four years at Michigan gave him a record of 127 career victories and nine victories in NCAA elimination games, making him the winningest goaltender in NCAA tournament history. Turco was also selected most valuable player in the Final Four after stopping 28 shots in the championship game.

I extend my best wishes to the University of Michigan Men's Ice Hockey Team on a tremendous season and the 1998 NCAA Championship—Go Blue!●

LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS

● Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on behalf of a charitable contribution worthy of note. Lymphatic filariasis is a terrible disease that our citizens are not likely to see here in the United States, but it is one of the World's most disabling and disfiguring diseases. It affects people in 73 countries, mainly in tropical and subtropical areas of India, Africa, Asia and South America.

The disease is caused by a parasite, carried by mosquitoes. Efforts to eliminate mosquitoes have not been successful in these regions, and the result is an endless cycle of infection for human hosts.

The World Health Organization has embarked on a campaign to stop this dread disease. Lymphatic filariasis infects 76 million people world wide. The parasitic worms, often only the size of a thread, live in humans by lodging in the lymphatic system. They live for up to six years, producing millions of microscopic larvae that circulate in the blood. When symptoms appear, they can be devastating. Kidney damage and painful swelling of the extremities are typical examples of the suffering endured by these victims.

The best previous defense against this disease was the administration of a single dose of two drugs, diethylcarbamazine or DEC and ivermectin. But when these drugs are administered at the same time with another drug, albendazole, the treatment is much more effective. Albendazole additionally kills hookworm, a very severe problem, especially in Africa.

Earlier this year, the World Health Organization's Division of Tropical Diseases announced a program to eliminate lymphatic filariasis. The cornerstone of this eradication program rests on the most generous charitable contribution in history. SmithKline Beecham, one of the world's leading healthcare companies, announced that they will provide their drug albendazole free of charge for the WHO effort. In addition to the drug donation, they are providing significant financial support to WHO to help implement the eradication program.

Yesterday, SmithKline Beecham testified before the House Committee on International Relations during a hearing on the Eradication and Elimination of Six Infectious Diseases. Dr. David Heymann, WHO's Director of Emerging and Communicable Diseases was also testifying. Dr. Heymann has been a great resource and help to me as I've learned about the growing problem of global viral and bacterial epidemics.

The hearing was worth noting, because it featured the contributions of many in the private sector to eradicate disease. Rotary International has made great progress in their effort to eliminate polio around the world. Merck & Co. has very generously, provided their drug Mectizan for the control of River Blindness, another filarial parasitic disease.

Another tireless worker on behalf of World Health, and someone who played a major role in both the Merck and SmithKline Beecham donations, is former President Jimmy Carter. He deserves our thanks and recognition for his efforts.

For the benefit of my colleagues who may not have been aware of yesterday's hearing, I'd like to submit for the RECORD the statement provided by Dr. Brian Bagnall, the Program Director for Lymphatic Filariasis for SmithKline Beecham. They are to be congratulated for their generosity and commitment to world health.

The statement follows:

TESTIMONY OF BRIAN BAGNALL, PH.D, FOR
SMITHKLINE BEECHAM
INTRODUCTION

My name is Dr. Brian Bagnall and I am the Program Director for Lymphatic Filariasis at SmithKline Beecham. The company is one of the world's leading healthcare corporations. We market pharmaceuticals, vaccines, over-the-counter medicines, and health-related consumer products. We have 54,000 employees worldwide, 22,000 of them in the U.S.

WHAT IS LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS?

The most eloquent answer I can provide is to show you the following two-minute videotape which includes some comments made by President Carter at a recent company meeting. (Shows video—see appendix for text).

DRAMATIC PROGRESS ACHIEVED ON LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS ERADICATION

The dreadful disease you just saw on the video is now entirely preventable. SmithKline Beecham is committed to doing whatever it takes to help rid the world of it.

SmithKline Beecham announced an agreement this past January with the World Health Organization, through its Division of Control of Tropical Diseases, to collaborate on a global program to eliminate lymphatic filariasis. This program was established after much of the GAO report was drafted. So I'm happy to be able to provide an update on our joint program. It's a massive undertaking to attack the world's most disabling and disfiguring tropical disease.

The necessary tools and strategies of diagnosing and treating this parasitic worm infection have been developed only recently. They have proven so effective that we can now envision worldwide eradication of lymphatic filariasis by the year 2020. Please note that this target date is ten years sooner than the previous estimated date of 2030 which was mentioned by WHO in March 1997 in their submission for the GAO report. There has obviously been exceptional progress. The aim is to treat people living in at-risk areas with two antiparasitic drugs just once a year for four to six years.

One of the drugs will be albendazole, donated free of charge by SmithKline Beecham. We are planning to produce about 5 billion treatments to be used in the 73 target countries over the next 15 of so years. In addition to the drug donation, we will support the WHO efforts with financial support, management expertise and education and training help.

Together with WHO, we are currently in the planning and organizing phase of the program. We hope to begin shipping the first drug donations in the next 6 months to national Ministries of Health which have submitted elimination plans to WHO.

BREAKING THE TRANSMISSION OF LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS

The treatment program I have described, devised by WHO with the scientific and trop-

ical medicine community, has a special mission—breaking the transmission of lymphatic filariasis. It is a truly preventive public health program aimed particularly at children and young adults who are infected with the parasite but who have not yet developed the long-term effects of the disease.

The children usually show no symptoms whatsoever. I might add that there is an additional and important benefit of the program for children and women of childbearing age—the drugs used will significantly reduce concurrent intestinal worm infections, such as hookworm, which cause anemia, stunt growth and inhibit intellectual development.

This strategic drug treatment program does not itself reverse the clinical damage of elephantiasis which results from decades of infection. Such disabled individuals will, nonetheless, benefit from an effective parallel program being recommended by WHO which focuses on skin hygiene and wound prevention.

In some respects, lymphatic filariasis can be compared to AIDS and HIV. Both diseases have a long latent period with years of symptomless infection which can then be transmitted to others. Both are now being treated with multiple drug therapy.

PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE FUTURE.

I have said that SmithKline Beecham will do whatever it takes to help rid the world of this simply dreadful and now wholly preventable disease. But large organizations such as WHO and SmithKline Beecham, even with support from the likes of the World Bank, cannot do this alone. We are actively seeking to build a Coalition of Partners for Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination from the public, private and non-profit sectors which make up the worldwide community of public health resources for the developing world.

We also recognize the generous contribution Merck & Co. have made in the past 10 years with their Mectizan Donation Program for control of River Blindness, another filarial parasite disease. We are keeping in close touch with them and hope to work together in the future as part of a growing private sector coalition to fight tropical diseases.

Over the past few months we have been encouraged by the messages of support we have received since our program was announced, including many of your colleagues from the House and Senate. We, together with WHO, want to hear from anyone who wants to join the campaign. We particularly seek partners from other corporations who can help make a major difference by donating their expertise in transportation and shipping, information management, community treatment programs or the provision of other essential drugs. We will gladly speak with others from within the public and private sector about joining us in this cause. And we seek and encourage governments from the developed world to help as well.

Mr. Chairman, we applaud you and the Committee for holding this hearing because it will sound a clear call for action by both the public and private sectors to unite in eradication of these seven terrible diseases.

I would like to conclude by saying that the lymphatic filariasis elimination program complements SmithKline Beecham's much broader approach to improve health. It is our aim, through our products, services and community partnership programs, to enrich the health of everyone in the world. Our collaboration with the World Health Organization allows us to directly improve the health of at least one-fifth of the earth's population and this program will spearhead our healthcare focus within global communities into the new millennium.●

RANDOM HOUSE

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, some while ago it was announced that the German publishing firm of Bertelsmann had purchased Random House, the legendary New York publisher founded in the 1920s by Bennett Cerf and Donald Klopfer. The brilliance of the authors published over the years was exceeded only by that of the young editors that gave their works such superb attention. One of these was Jason Epstein. It was my great fortune to have him as an editor of three books which Random House published—"Coping: On the Practice of Government," "The Politics of A Guaranteed Income," and, with Frederick Mosteller, "On the Equality of Educational Opportunity." These were wonderfully produced, no less wonderfully edited—500 or more pages each. Thereafter, they were marketed with what I can only think of as loving care. The subjects were anything but reader friendly, as you might say, but Random House was author friendly and American letters are profoundly in its debt. Recently, in the April 6 issue of the New Yorker, The Talk of the Town began with a wonderful reminiscence by Jason Epstein of his early years at Random House. I ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

[From the New Yorker, Apr. 6, 1998]

(By Jason Epstein)

INK—CAN THE BERTELSMANN DEAL TAKE PUBLISHING BACK TO ITS ROOTS?

On the morning last week that the purchase of Random House by Bertelsmann was announced, I happened to pass the office of my colleague Bob Loomis and noticed the framed copy of the Random House interoffice phone directory for 1958 that Bob keeps on his bookshelf. The directory is about the size of a postal card and lists some ninety names, including Bob's and mine along with those of Bennett Cerf and his partner Donald Klopfer, the founders of Random House, whose offices were then on the parlor floor of the old Villard mansion, on Madison and Fiftieth. We occupied the north wing. The Archdiocese owned the central portion, which is now the entrance of the Palace Hotel, as well as the south wing, which now houses Le Cirque 2000.

Loomis and I joined Random House in the late nineteen-fifties. Though we took our publishing responsibilities seriously, we did not think of ourselves as businessmen but as caretakers of a tradition, like London tailors or collectors of Chinese porcelain. Bennett Cerf set the tone, and it was his habit to run from office to office sharing the jokes he had just heard over the phone from his Hollywood friends. Several times a day Bennett interrupted meetings between editors and authors in this fashion. Some authors were delighted. But I remember an afternoon when a baffled W.H. Auden asked if we could finish our conversation at Schrafft's across the street. This was, I believe, the last time he set foot in the Random House offices.

For me in those years, book publishing seemed more a sport than a business—a sport that required skill and strict attention to the rules, especially the rule that we had to make enough money to stay in the game. But if we wanted to make real money in a real business we knew that we should forget about afternoons with Auden, Faulkner, and Dr. Seuss and go down to Wall Street. But